If you have ever seen mushrooms, you have seen fungi (*Fun jy*). Mushrooms, molds and mildew are all fungi. Most fungi are multicellular (multiple cells) eukaryotes. A few, such as yeast, are unicellular (meaning one cell). Fungi are found almost everywhere on land, but only a few live in fresh water. All fungi are heterotrophs. Most fungi feed on dead or decaying organisms. The cuplike fungus you see below obtains its food from the parts of plants that are decaying in the soil.

**Multicellular:** having many cells  
**Unicellular:** having one cell  
**Eukaryotes:** An organism that has a cell or cells in which the genetic material is DNA in the form of chromosomes contained within a distinct nucleus  
**Prokaryote:** A microscopic *single-celled organism* that has neither a distinct nucleus with a membrane nor other specialized organelles  
**Heterotrophs:** An organism deriving its nutritional requirements from complex organic substances.  
**Spores:** A tiny, typically one-celled reproductive unit capable of giving rise to a new individual without sexual fusion.

Get a book and turn to page 202.   
Read: **What are Fungi?** and **Reproduction of Fungi**

1. What type of asexual reproduction occurs in yeasts?  
 a. Lighting  
 b. Budding  
 c. Fruiting

2. What type of reproduction produces fungi that differ genetically from the parents?  
 a. linking roots to reproduce  
 b. spore production  
 c. sexual reproduction

3. Under what conditions do most fungi reproduce asexually?  
 a. high temperatures  
 b. low temperatures  
 c. adequate food and moisture

4. Which traits are shared by all fungi?  
 a. Eukaryotic, with cell walls; heterotrophs with similar means of   
 feeding; spores for reproduction  
 b. Prokaryotic; homotroph with different means of feeding  
 c. No spores, spores travel through bees

5. Which fungi are unicellular?  
 a. molds  
 b. mushrooms  
 c. yeasts

6. What are fungi?

7. How are fungal spores similar to plant seeds?  
 a. they have protective coverings and are transported easily by air or water  
 b. they have no protective coverings and are not easily transported by air or water  
 c. they are not similar

8. How do fungi reproduce?  
 a. they make connections  
 b. they make tubes  
 c. they make spores

9. What is the major role of fungi in nature?   
 a. they are important decomposers and recyclers  
 b. they are warning signs for animals  
 c. they help make bread